

June 7, 1945

Martha Jane Swearingen Laid To Rest Saturday

Last rites were held for Mrs. Martha Jane Swearingen Saturday afternoon at 2:30 at the Groton Methodist church. Rev. L. C. Benson conducted the services. A quartette, composed of Mrs. S. F. Milici, Mrs. Alfred Paetznick, Mrs. Earl A. Mueller, and Mrs. Clayton Gibbs, sang "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," and "In the Sweet Bye and Bye." Mrs. Joe Williams accompanied them at the piano. Pallbearers were Joseph Swearingen, Robert Swearingen, William Swearingen, Harry Swearingen, Charles Swearingen and Leonard Zeller. Interment was in the Groton Union cemetery.

Mrs. Swearingen, a resident of the Groton community since 1904, until she moved to Aberdeen two years ago, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Leonard Zeller, at the age of 88 years, on May 30th, after a long illness. She was preceded in death by her husband and two children.

Martha Jane Swearingen, nee Spencer, was born September 11, 1856, near Buda, Ill., where she lived until the age of 12, when she, with her parents and other members of the family, moved to Benton County, Iowa, by way of the covered wagon. In Iowa, where she grew to womanhood she met and married Robert Swearingen, on August 22, 1878.

Mrs. Swearingen was a member of the Methodist church since childhood.

Surviving her are four brothers, nine children, thirty-nine grandchildren, and thirty-two great-grandchildren. Mrs. Swearingen has eight grandsons serving in the armed forces.